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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

PURGE LEADING COMMUNISTS, ECONOMIC SABOTEURS

EAST GERMANS FILLING GAPS CAUSED BY PURGES -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 12 Nov 50

Berlin, 11 November -- East Germany has now begun to fill the vacancies caused by the extensive purges of high Communist officials.

The East German railroads have been given a new chief, Erwin Kramer of the SED. He succeeds Willi Kreikemeyer, who was removed from office in early September for Titoist activity and for sabotage of the East German economy. Kreikemeyer is now under arrest, probably somewhere in East Germany.

Along with Kreikemeyer, five other leading East German Communists were purged: Paul Merker, a member of the East German Politburo, Leo Bauer, editor in chief for the Soviet-controlled Berlin radio, Bruno Goldmann, director of the East German information control bureau under Minister of Propaganda Eisler, Lex Ende, editor in chief of the party organ Neues Deutschland, and Maria Weiterer, one of the party's leading women members.

All were accused of having had liaison with "the chief American agent, Noel H. Field," a social worker in postwar Germany who disappeared in Czechoslovakia over a year ago.

Besides these leading Communists, an unknown number of other functionaries were also purged. Numerous reports of this purge have poured into Berlin in recent weeks.

As recently as 11 November, Neue Zeitung reported that three officials in the Sachsen Ministry of Agriculture had been ousted, that the director of the health department in Dresden and two of his co-workers had been removed from office, and that all the directors of the people-owned paper mills in Sachsen had been arrested. The newspaper stated further that one third of the leading officials in the railroad administration in Magdeburg, including Director Foch and his closest associate, have been arrested for treasonable activity in connection with the Kreikemeyer affair.

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REPORTS NEW PURGE IN EAST GERMANY -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 26 Oct 50

Berlin, 25 October -- The Christian Democratic Union in East Germany has excluded the Minister of Commerce of Thuringen, Walter Rueckert, from the party. An official announcement, believed to be the prelude to a new purge of "saboteurs" from the East German provincial governments and affiliated parties, warned of other disciplinary measures to be taken because of insufficient orthodoxy.

OFFICIALS ARRESTED FOR SABOTAGE -- Stockholm, Morgon Tidningen, 26 Oct 50

It is reported officially that several East German officials have been arrested for economic sabotage and espionage. They will be tried for smuggling newsprint from the East Zone to West Berlin, lowering the quality of paper in the Soviet Zone, raising prices illegally, evading taxes, and transmitting economic information to a research institute in West Germany.

ENTHUSIASM FOR PARTY COURSES DEFICIENT -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 12 Nov 50

Berlin, 11 November -- The first week of the Communist-controlled SED's so-called "party instruction year," according to the party leadership, has passed in an atmosphere of "general lack of interest on the part of the party members."

In many districts, it has not yet been possible to begin the political courses because party officials who had signed up simply did not show up. Of 21 who had signed up for the party instruction course in Gustrow in Mecklenburg, only two reported when the instruction was to begin. The others had preferred participation in a silver wedding anniversary celebration to attendance at the "Stalin circle." The party press remarked critically that the courses had barely begun in some places in the Soviet sector of Berlin.

PEOPLE'S JUDGES REPLACE REGULAR JUDGES -- Zurich, Die Tat, 16 Oct 50

According to West Berlin press reports, 326 judges and 27 district attorneys have been dismissed recently in Thuringen. To replace these men, who attained their position after regular study and experience in the legal field, 166 graduates of the so-called "people's judge" courses have been installed as people's judges and people's district attorneys.

PLAN REVISION OF BIBLE -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 3 Nov 50

Berlin, 2 November -- According to the independent West German newspaper Die Welt, the SED is currently selecting a group of pastors to prepare a revised edition of the Bible. The preparations are being directed by the SED's section for political culture.

FISHING CREW ARRESTED FOR PLUNDERING -- Göteborg, Svensk Sjöfarts Tidning, No 40, 5 Oct 50

The Soviet Zone coast guard has seized the East German fishing vessel Ernst Thaelmann and arrested its entire crew, consisting of members of the "Free German Youth" Communist organization.

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The vessel was delivered to the 50-man crew this year at the "People's Shipyard" in Stralsund, amid great festivities in conjunction with the SED Party Conference. Instead of fishing, however, the youths used the vessel to plunder wrecks off Sassnitz. They salvaged mostly metal, which they then sold to West Germany.

FREE GERMAN YOUTH MEMBERSHIP TO BE COMPULSORY -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 1 Nov 50

Berlin, 31 October -- It is reported from well-informed official circles in the SED that compulsory membership in the Communist youth organization "Free German Youth" or in the children's organization "Young Pioneers" will be introduced in East Germany in the spring.

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